

Background

Brett Storey, Senior Management Analyst in the Placer County Executive Office, will be giving the SNC staff and Board an update on a project funded in part by the Conservancy: the Biomass Removal on National Forest Lands project.

The first phase of implementation has been completed, with a productive on-the-ground project within the Tahoe National Forest. Several tons of woody biomass material that would have otherwise been burned in the open has been diverted to make multiple megawatts of green energy. This project has eliminated a significant amount of air pollution and has enabled the USFS to move forward with plans to treat many hundred valuable acres in the American River watershed. The project report will document these attributes, as well as the entire economic portfolio, and provide a sense of where the value-added pieces need to be refined to ensure that this kind of stewardship can be accomplished to support other land managers in the Sierra.

Current Status/Next Steps

The presentation will provide the SNC Board an overview of the project. Documented amounts of biomass removed, air pollution and carbon avoided and watershed improvements will be detailed. The relationship of project economics of biomass via land stewardship will also be discussed. Additionally a short 6-minute video documenting the project will be shown to the Board and public.

Recommendation

This is an informational item only; no Board action is needed at this time, although we encourage Boardmembers to share their thoughts and comments after the presentation.